



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Bateman *et al.* Conf. No.: 3842
Serial No.: 10/699,035 Examiner: Haddad, M.M.
Filed: October 31, 2003 Group Art Unit: 1644
For: A MOLECULAR MARKER

RESPONSE

October 2, 2006

Mail Stop Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit this Response to the March 31, 2006 Office Action received from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified patent application. Applicants enclose herewith a petition for a three (3)-month extension of time to file this Response, and a check for \$510.00 in payment of the extension fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3). A response is due by October 2, 2006.¹

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this Response.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 7 of this Response.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 9 of this Response and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this Response.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached at page 21 of this Response.

¹ The deadline for filing this Response falls on Sunday, September 30, 2006. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.7, Applicants may file this Response on the next succeeding business day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or a Federal holiday. Accordingly, Applicants may file this response on October 2, 2006.